

Each year, more than a million volunteers and 30,000 Red Cross employees mobilize relief efforts to the victims of more than 63,000 disasters nationwide through a network of more than 700 chapters.

One of the most important and successful roles of the Red Cross has been the organization's role as the primary supplier of lifesaving blood for more than 50 years. As a leader in blood collecting and screening techniques, the Red Cross has helped to develop new techniques that have assisted in providing safer blood to those who need it which helps to lessen complications and transmittable illnesses.

As the Red Cross moved into the 21st century, it has begun to spread out into other life-saving areas. It has concentrated training and public awareness in the fields of First Aid, Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED), and water safety training.

Although I hope I shall never need the American Red Cross's emergency services and aid, it is good to know that we have such an outstanding organization there if such a situation should arise. The vision of Ms. Barton has come to fruition to the benefit of all Americans, and for this I want to recognize both Clara Barton and the organization that she founded, The American Red Cross.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF  
MARJORIE L. POSEY PFAFF

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 13, 2008*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the honorable, compassionate, and influential life of the late Marjorie L. Posey Pfaff of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District which I proudly represent. Marge leaves behind a legacy of a life dutifully fulfilled and a state proudly served. Throughout Marge's lifetime, her love of living, enthusiasm for her relationships with the many friends she held so dear, and unwavering devotion to not only her career in real-estate, but also to Missouri politics revealed Marge as an unequaled, exemplary leader in this great state.

Born to Clyde O. and Crystal V. Alexander, Marge began what became an honorable, dignified life on October 10, 1926 in Chillicothe, Missouri. Married to the late Francis Leon (Toby) Pfaff on December 19, 1977, Marge began a family that would go with her from Chillicothe to Independence, Missouri, the hometown of President Harry S. Truman and Marge's hallowed resting place. Her son, Robert Posey and his wife Dana remain in Independence, continuing to share the gift of generosity which their mother so dearly possessed.

Marge began her long career in real-estate in Chillicothe, where she owned the Gaslight-Pfaff Realty Company. From this small operation in Chillicothe, Marge would later work for ReMax and finally Reece and Nichols in Independence. Marge began her long career as nearly one in a million women who would later come to compose a much larger contingent of our real-estate industry. Marge let her light of experience and charm shine, earning the Missouri Association of Realtors salesperson of

the year in 1997 and as the Kansas City Association of Realtors salesperson of the year in 1996. As a female pioneer in her craft, Marge tirelessly sought to make possible the success and equality of opportunity for women in not only the real-estate industry, but also in politics.

Serving as a president of the Independence Young Matrons and the Independence Sanitarium and Hospital Auxiliary, Marge found a voice amongst equals who would come to herald her as a leader not only for her deep connectivity to influential individuals in her state, connections she earned through her sharp wit and unforgettable personality, but also because of her steadfast dedication to the success of her ideals. She forged ahead in all of the many political activities in which she was involved, never for personal gain, but for the greater potential of providing equal opportunity for all. Her service as the president of the Women's Council of Realtors and beloved participation in the Real Estate Political Action Committee afforded not only the great state of Missouri, but also our Nation an opportunity to share in the historical breakthrough of a unique and powerful woman to the apex of both respect and heroism in whose likes few before her have been held. As Federal political coordinator for the Fifth Congressional District, Marge proved only what I knew to expect from her since the first time she and I met, nothing but excellence and caring commitment.

We rejoice in the life of Marge today not only because she, like so many, sought to share in the American dream of the equality of opportunity for all of our neighbors, but because she tirelessly endeavored to make it a reality. Overcoming the adversity that once lay before her, a woman whose very heart and soul worked to shake the male-dominated establishment around her, Marge creates for not only all women, but all those held behind by the oppression of myopia, a bastion of hope and a model of success to guide them all to a promise of equality that we too often find neglected.

Madam Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to my dearly departed friend, Marjorie L. Posey Pfaff, for her loving devotion and limitless dedication to serving the residents of Kansas City, the State of Missouri, and our Nation. Strong, sustainable societies are built upon a foundation of goodness and dedication. It is our hometown heroes, like Marge, the well revered and benevolent, who ensure the longevity of, and strengthen, our free and democratic way of life. May God continue to bless Marge as she lives on forever in our memories.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 13, 2008*

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, on May 8, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll No. 295, on agreeing to the Hensarling amendment to H.R. 5818. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JERRY BEASLEY'S SERVICE TO CONCORD UNIVERSITY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 13, 2008*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Jerry L. Beasley and his 23 years of service to the students and faculty of Concord University. Concord University is home to over 2700 of West Virginia's best and brightest students and one of the finest public universities in the Nation. Since 1985, Jerry has led the faculty and staff of Concord University as President of this great institution and is now set to retire on June 30, 2008.

Born and raised in Hinton, West Virginia, Jerry has devoted his life to improving our State's educational opportunities. He earned his bachelor's degree from Harvard College in 1966 and his master's in education degree in 1969. He worked at Harvard as an assistant to the admissions committee for the college before joining the West Virginia Commission of Higher Education. In 1972, he came to Concord College as a special assistant to the President before being hired by Waynesburg College as Vice President for Planning and Development from 1974-1982 where his efforts more than tripled gifts and grants for operations.

In 1979, he was awarded a Ph.D. from Stanford University where his doctoral research focused on innovations in State government. His last stop before returning to Concord was at West Virginia Wesleyan, where Jerry served as Vice President for Planning and Development. In 1985, Jerry became President at Concord, and in what would be the first of many signs of his lifelong dedication to the institution of higher learning, he decided to forgo the traditional inauguration and instead devoted the funds and efforts for the ceremony to the support of student scholarships.

During his tenure, Jerry has been a godsend to Concord University, helping it to expand and flourish, and has played a powerful role in developing one of the largest endowments of any West Virginia public college. At close to \$23 million, the Concord University Foundation is number one among small public colleges and universities in the state. He also oversaw major changes and improvements to the campus from the physical plant, Marsh Hall, the science building and new technology centers on campus. From special assistant to the President to being installed as President himself, Jerry has left his mark on virtually every aspect of the University and touched countless lives around him.

Jerry's list of accomplishments far exceeds his years of service. He has nurtured generations of young minds and helped shape the higher education system in West Virginia. His dedication to his work and commitment to helping others are examples for us all.

I again congratulate Jerry on his 23 years of dedicated service to Concord University and wish his wife Jean and himself continued success in all their future endeavors here in Athens.